

Becoming MPs

New Horizons in El Salvador

Ready, Shoot, Document

The Official U.S. Army Magazine

July 2005
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Soldiers

Iraq's ROUGH RIDERS

MULTI-NATIONAL SECURITY TRANSITION COMMAND - IRAQ

Special Independence Day
Insert for Music Fans



Cover Story — Page 8
From the turret of an up-armored Humvee, SSG John Crawford keeps an eye out for possible attacks during a convoy-security mission.

— Photo by SGT Lorie Jewell

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Soldiers | July 2005 | Vol



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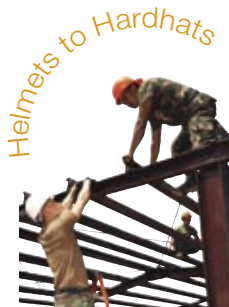
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WHEN the Continental Congress approved the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, it took a bold step, but also placed grave responsibility on its new Army. Poorly trained and ill equipped, Revolutionary Soldiers were losing on many fronts and would soon have to abandon New York. But the Army held together for five more years and, through tough times, made it possible for America's founders to create a new form of government.

Today's Army continues that tradition of working through tough times to secure peoples' freedom. Examples in this month's issue are "Iraq's Rough Riders," SGT Lorie Jewell's account of the dangers faced by a convoy security team that includes Soldiers and Marines, and "A Friendly Patrol," SSG Raymond Drunsta's look at Army civil-affairs efforts in Iraq.



Other stories in the issue focus on Army missions, but also check out COL Randy Pullen's "Father and Son: Citizen Warriors," a salute to Medal of Honor recipients President Theodore Roosevelt and his

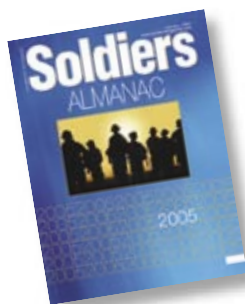
son, BG Theodore Roosevelt, Jr.

July 4th celebrations mark the start of many family vacations and PCS moves. We here at Soldiers wish you a safe and happy summer. And to those who are deployed, we thank you and wish you a swift and safe return to your homes and families.

Gil High
Editor in Chief

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Soldiers

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Implant Info

I FORWARDED the March Soldiers Online article "Doctors Use Implant on OEF Soldier" to my father, who is retired Air Force and a successful cochlear implantee — he's not quite to the 80-percent level, but is considerably improved from before the procedure. He hopes that a second implant will be provided to SPC Wiggins in order to help him regain the binaural ability to hear directionally.

Our wounded and returning Soldiers deserve no less than the maximum possible assistance in returning to a near normal life. I am gratified that this is being done.

CW4 Stephen E. Watkins (Ret.)
via e-mail

Female Soldier Responds

I WOULD like to respond to the March message from the Army leadership regarding females in the military; their current role in activities in Iraq and Afghanistan, and how the new brigade combat team units of action assignments affect them.

As a female in the first UA at Fort Drum, N.Y., I disagree with the leadership's position. True, I am assigned to the 1st BSTB, where females are allowed by Army regulations, but I have found that my position as a female is being abused.

On our recent rotation to JRTC, I found myself and my team serving with the infantry of the brigade. Two weeks into the rotation, I found myself having to walk around with my head down because of all the stares from the infantrymen. I was informed when I got to Fort Drum that I should use my rank to tell the young Soldiers when their behavior constitutes harassment, but out in the field it became impossible because of the sheer number of people I found staring at me simply because I'm female.

I told my leaders about the problem and was told to "get used to it" since infantry soldiers were not used to work-

ing around females. The commander I was working under (a signal officer for one of the infantry units) just shrugged his shoulders when I told him of the problem. I found myself at a remote location with my team. I was the only female among 20 soldiers, I felt completely uncomfortable but there was nothing I could do.

I am fearful of what will happen when we go to Iraq late this summer. I feel I will be placed in the same situation, and my concerns about being placed with so many males will go unheard until something happens (which I completely expect at this point). I do not feel like an invaluable and essential part of the Army team as the message states, I feel like a body with no voice.

SGT Carla Marghella
Via e-mail

CIB Debate, Continued

IN response to CPT Wayne Williams's comments in the April edition regarding the new rules governing the award of the CIB, I would like to add the following.

CPT Williams's statement that "the standards for the CIB recently changed to make anyone with an 11-series MOS eligible for the award simply by virtue of having served for 30 days in theater" is not true. The standards as prescribed in AR 600-8-22 have not changed significantly since the start of the global war on terrorism and remain basically the same. What has changed is the approval authority and the degree to which various approval authorities have applied or failed to apply the standards for the CIB.

The standards remain basically as follows: The CIB can be awarded to an infantry or special forces Soldier (now includes MOS 18D), who is performing infantry/special forces duties, while serving in an infantry or special forces unit (brigade and below) during such time as the unit is engaged in active ground combat. Additionally, the soldier must be an active participant in ground combat — campaign credit is

not sufficient.

Unfortunately, a growing number of individuals are being awarded the CIB for service that does not merit the award. The proponent has discovered many erroneously issued CIBs given to non-infantry/special forces Soldiers; awards given to Soldiers assigned to training/advisory duties; to infantry/special forces soldiers serving in non-infantry/special forces positions; as well as many Soldiers whose units may have been engaged in combat operations in which the Soldiers did not participate. There is no justification for these awards; they are the direct result of leaders failing to enforce standards.

It is unfortunate that many leaders are failing to enforce the standards. The CIB is not a campaign badge or an award for service during war. It is a badge to recognize the sacrifices and duty performed by infantrymen and special forces soldiers in closing with and destroying the enemies of this nation.

CSM Michael A. Kelso
United States Army Infantry Center

Editor's Note:

In the May "Letter from the Editor" we stated that it was a year ago last April that SFC Paul Ray Smith's unit was under attack near Baghdad International Airport. It was actually two years ago (April 4, 2003) that this action, for which Smith posthumously received the Medal of Honor, took place.

Soldiers values your opinion

To comment, keep your remarks to under 150 words, include your name, rank and address and send them to:

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Korea

Soldiers from the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, prepare for a live-fire exercise with M1A1 Abrams tanks and M2A2 Bradley fighting vehicles at Rodriguez Live Fire Complex on March 19.

— Photo by Staff Sgt. Suzanne M. Day, USAF



Iraq

PFC Tiffany M. Shockley assists Dr. (CPT) Michael R. Sanders, both with the 520th Area Support Medical Command, in performing oral surgery on an Iraqi detainee at the Camp Bucca Internment Facility Aid Station.

— Photo by
SPC Jeremy D. Crisp



▲ Florida

(From center left) SGT Heriberto Vargas, 196th Transportation Company of Orlando, Fla.; CPT Jenny Cline, company commander with the Gainesville, Fla., Recruiting Battalion; SMA Kenneth O. Preston; SPC Jessica Carpenter, 143rd Trans. Co., Orlando; and 1SG Charles Orange, company first sergeant with the Gainesville RBN; swear delayed entry program recruits into the Army at the 36th annual MacTools Gatornationals competition of drag racing in March in Gainesville.

— Photo by SSG Reeba Critser.



▲ Italy

Soldiers of the 173rd Airborne Brigade from Vincenzo, Italy, prepare to depart from Aviano AB, Italy, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The 173rd deployed for a year to Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan. The unit relieved the 25th Infantry Division and became Combined Joint Task Force 76.

— Photo by Bethann Caporalett



▲ Afghanistan

SGT Miguel Puga of Battery C, 3rd Bn., 7th Field Artillery Regt., looks through the sight on his M-119A2 howitzer during his gunner's test near Forward Operating Base Tiger, Afghanistan.

— Photo by Dijon Rolle



▲ El Salvador

Army National Guard Soldiers from the 133rd Engineer Bn. from Westbrook, Maine, and Airmen from the 11th Civil Engineering Squadron from Bolling Air Force Base in Washington D.C., raise the gable at the Las Flores school building project near San Vicente. The area was hit by earthquakes earlier this year.

—Photo by TSgt. John M. Foster, USAF



Iraq's Rough Ride

Story and Photos by
SGT Lorie Jewell

IT'S his first turn behind the wheel of an up-armored Humvee with the "Rough Riders" convoy-security team, and Marine Cpl. James Schiele has both fists locked firmly on the steering wheel.

From the passenger seat the assistant convoy commander, Army SSG

Army Journalist of the Year SGT Lorie Jewell is deployed to Iraq as a member of the MNSTC-I Public Affairs office.

Scotty Anderson, senses Schiele's apprehension.

"You ever driven a Humvee before?" Anderson quips, as the vehicle starts to roll. "You're looking a little tense over there."

Schiele nods yes to driving experience, but doesn't try to bluff about the butterflies.

"I'm a little nervous, sergeant," he admits. "I don't want to get anybody



◀ SSG Scotty Anderson scans the route as a convoy of 2nd Platoon “Rough Riders” escorts MNSTC-I personnel to Baghdad International Airport.

▼ The route to the airport is a busy one, and platoon members must stay alert for insurgent attacks while also contending with Iraq’s chaotic traffic.



ers *“I’ve never seen a unit more proficient in running convoy security than this one,” McFadden said.*

killed. I like you guys too much.”

In the roughly four months that the current crop of Rough Riders has been on the job, there have been no casualties in the unit — but there have been too many close calls to count. An asset of the Multi-National Security Transition Command – Iraq, they conduct several hundred missions a month, escorting personnel, equipment and assessment teams to and from locations

within a 160-kilometers radius of their headquarters in Baghdad’s International Zone.

The 32-man unit is equally divided into two platoons and represents a trio of service branches and a mix of active and reserve-component units. Most are infantry, but there are also combat engineers, medics and a motor-transport Soldier.

Marine 1st Lt. Nathan McFadden

commanded a machine-gun platoon for two years before taking over as the team’s officer in charge.

“I’ve never seen a unit more proficient in running convoy security than this one,” McFadden said “It’s a composite group of volunteers joined together to make it happen, which makes it even more impressive.”

Army LTC Reedy Hopkins, a liaison officer between MNSTC-I and



▲ As they make their way toward the airport, the convoy-security team passes a billboard that, loosely translated, says “The terrorists give bad ideas — like poison — to our children. Do not let terrorists take advantage of your children.”

the Civilian Police Assistance Training Team, has been escorted numerous times by the Rough Riders. He agrees with McFadden.

“They are the consummate professionals,” Hopkins said. “I’d trust my life to them any time.”

Danger is inherent in each mission, whether it’s a 15-minute trip to Baghdad International Airport or two hours to a remote base. Gun fire and improvised explosive devices are common.

The men of the second platoon can rattle off the dates and details of the bigger ambushes like sports statistics. There was the IED that hit SSG John Crawford’s truck on Nov. 10, the Nov. 22 firefight at an Iraqi village and another one four days later in Baghdad.

Near the entrance to the International Zone is a patch of black asphalt as big as a Humvee, a stark contrast to the pale gray highway pavement surrounding it. It’s a daily reminder of the vehicle-borne IED that hit the platoon’s convoy Nov. 28.

But their worst experience to date is still a raw recollection. The second platoon was escorting a convoy of 21 heavy-equipment trucks and one wrecker with the Mannheim, Ger-

many-based 377th Transportation Company to Taji, Feb. 18, when an IED exploded from a highway median.

The third truck took a direct hit and careened off the roadway, lumbering over a series of berms before coming to rest.

At the rear, two kilometers back, convoy commander SFC Mick Dustin heard the urgent radio call: “IED. HET down!” He immediately radioed back, checking the status of his men, as his driver pulled around the vehicles in front of them to speed to the scene.

Hopping out of the Humvee, Dustin grabbed a combat-lifesaver pack and ran to the crippled 18-wheeler, its cab engulfed in flames. Crawford and SFC Eric Winfield were giving first aid to two badly injured Soldiers.

Anderson, a Reserve Soldier with the 100th Army Reserve Command and a police officer from Berea, Ky., set up a security perimeter and assisted Winfield, who was working to stop the blood gushing from two gashes in the leg of one of the injured Soldiers.

Winfield pulled off the two T-shirts he was wearing under his desert camouflage uniform jacket to use as pressure dressings until a combat-lifesaver pack arrived.

The men shrug off any mention of the extraordinary lengths they went to that day to save Soldiers they didn’t know. They wore the same uniform; that made them brothers.

The Soldier started talking about “Gill” and how he didn’t think he made it. Winfield asked him who Gill was. He was driving the HET, the Soldier told him. Dustin grabbed a fire extinguisher and ran to the cab. Through thick, blinding smoke and lapping flames, Dustin reached inside and pulled out SGT Carlos Gill.

“When we hit the ground, I knew from his injuries that he was dead,” Dustin said. “After that, I just tried to keep the other guys calm. Gill was their buddy.”

Dustin, Winfield, Hopkins and SSG Thomas Borders carried Gill away from the truck and laid him on the hood of a Humvee, where Hopkins

covered his body with a tarp. As the fire started “cooking” ammunition inside the truck, the men hurriedly moved everyone as far away as possible. Then the rounds started popping.

Gill was on his third tour in Iraq. Married and the father of a 4-year-old daughter, he was a popular jokester, who had volunteered to drive that day.

As the Humvee carrying Gill slowly rolled past the convoy, delivering him to another vehicle that would take him back to the unit’s forward operating base, one Soldier after another stopped to salute, tears trickling down dirt and smoke-covered cheeks.

“That’s when I lost it,” said Crawford, a Reservist from Indiana, who has a wife and year-old daughter. He lost it again, he said, when he thought about how it would be if someone had to make that call to his wife.

Crawford, who was pulled out of drill sergeant school for this tour, mans a 50-caliber machine gun from the turret of a Humvee. He spent most of his time that day giving first aid to the

second injured Soldier, who suffered serious burns and a damaged neck artery. It took three field dressings before the wound started to clot enough to stem the blood flow.

“He kept begging me, ‘Please don’t let me die here,’” Crawford recounted. “I kept telling him he wasn’t going to die, he was going to be fine.”

Crawford went to the hospital inside the International Zone the next day, where the Soldiers were taken, to make sure he hadn’t lied when he told the Soldier he would be okay. Doctors assured him all were going to make it. Once stable, the Soldiers were evacuated to Germany for more treatment.

The men shrug off any mention of the extraordinary lengths they went to that day to save Soldiers they didn’t know. They wore the same uniform; that made them brothers.

“We just did our jobs,” said Winfield, a Reservist from La Place, La.

Dustin is from Mustang, Okla. A member of the 95th Army Reserve Command, he came to Iraq intent on

not having any regrets when it’s time to head back home.

“When Gill was in that truck, we didn’t know if he was dead or alive,” Dustin says. “That’s why I went in to get him. We just didn’t know, and I had to know, for my own conscience. I couldn’t just stand there.”

Dealing with the stress of what they see and experience is something each Rough Rider handles in his own way. Some suck it up and carry on; others find release in talking with others on the team.

“That incident will haunt me forever,” Crawford admitted. “When a guy is screaming in pain, begging for his life, and there’s nothing you can do . . . you get this sick feeling. I can’t talk about that with anyone but these guys. They’re the only ones who really understand what that’s like.”

▼ From the turret of his up-armored Humvee, SSG John Crawford keeps an eye out for possible attacks during the convoy-security mission.



AS during previous forays outside the wire at Forward Operating Base Danger, in Tikrit, Iraq, Soldiers had their “game” faces on and rolled out of the gate with loaded weapons and body armor, in armored Humvees.

But this patrol had a friendly “face,” because it was from the 411th Civil Affairs Battalion. Supporting the commander in his relationship with the local population is civil affairs’ main mission, said battalion commander LTC Edwin Miranda.

“You want to give the impression that you’re here to help,” he said. “You want to build relationships.”

The battalion’s civil-affairs Soldiers are doing that — and more — in Task Force Liberty’s area of operations.

On the recent patrol, Soldiers of the battalion’s Headquarters and HQs. Company hit the streets to talk to Iraqi businessmen, assess the effects of Iraq’s recent elections on business, and

in it,” added SGT Michael Rothermel, civil-affairs team sergeant and interpreter.

Self-reliance is the ultimate goal, Miranda said.

“The Iraqis need to get back on their feet, and get back to work,” he said. “They need to take a vested interest in their own affairs.”

Imperato is a Bedford, N.Y., police officer and former New York Army National Guard Soldier. During the patrol, he moved from business to business, like a cop walking his beat, chatting easily, through an interpreter, to Tikrit business owners.

“I can read people well. I’m used to dealing with people on foot patrol,” Imperato said, referring to his police experience. “What I’m doing here is similar. I still have to be on my guard.”

Balancing security and sociability is difficult, Miranda said. “We have to find a balance between force protection and conducting civil-military operations. Civil-affairs Soldiers can protect themselves just like other Soldiers, while treating civilians with respect — something all Soldiers should do.

“The average Soldier must fully understand the rules of engagement,” he said. “He must understand in a split second who the enemy is, and who the civilians are. The average Soldier should remember that, like civil affairs Soldiers, they are ambassadors. While they are expected to defend themselves, they should treat Iraqis with dignity and respect. It’s not easy. In this environment, anyone can come out from the crowd and kill you.”

That’s why Imperato, Rothermel and an Iraqi official walked the streets surrounded by a moving perimeter of 360-degree security provided by American and Iraqi soldiers.

There was no negative feedback from the businessmen they spoke with, Imperato said.

“And we learned that they’re all excited about starting a chamber of commerce,” he added. “The businessmen said that if they all came together to pool their resources, they could improve the economy.”

“The response was great,” Rother-

A Friendly Patrol

Story and Photo by
SSG Raymond Drumsta

ask about establishing a chamber of commerce, said civil-affairs team chief SSG John Imperato.

“The goal was to get the feel of the business community, to gauge their thoughts about a chamber of commerce, and if they would participate

SSG Raymond Drumsta is assigned to the 42nd Inf. Div. Public Affairs Office in Iraq.

mel said. "They're looking forward to having a chamber of commerce. One thing we're giving them, which they never had before, is a voice. Now they can discuss how they'll collaborate, and how they'll pool their resources."

The next step, Rothermel said, will be for Iraqis to pick chamber-of-commerce representatives who will communicate their issues.

"You can only meet so many needs," he said. "You want to help everyone, but you can only help some of them. You do what you can. You can't let that burden weigh you down."

Once they were approached by an Iraqi family whose home was destroyed by a mortar round, Rothermel recalled. The family was seeking shelter — something the civil-affairs Soldiers couldn't provide. What they did supply, however, was food and hygiene items from the stock they always have handy, and information on how to get in touch with an Iraqi government agency that could help.

"Sometimes we can only point

people in the right direction," he said. "That helps them more than we could help them on our own."

"We're structuring a government," Imperato said. "If we can get the smaller government organizations running smoothly, and the Iraqi police and Iraqi army up to speed, things will be great."


The unit is also training an Iraqi force to take over the civil-affairs mission, Imperato said. "They do well. They go out once a week by themselves."

Based in Danbury, Conn., the 411th CA Bn. is coordinating \$8 million of projects in TF Liberty's area of operations, said CPT Tammie Perreault, the battalion personnel officer. These include minor school renovations, urban clean-up by local labor, the preservation of Iraqi historic sites, and improvement of Iraqi government facilities.

HHC is supporting the 42nd Infantry Division, Miranda said, and his other companies are supporting TF

Liberty's combat teams. The civil-affairs Soldiers helped coordinate elections with local officials, and the battalion's public-health team recently conducted a health assessment in Samarra and was able to provide Iraqi health professionals with new medical equipment, sanitation support and medical reference material.

"It's rewarding when you see needs and issues being resolved and taken care of," Miranda said.

Rothermel said he "absolutely loves" civil-affairs work. "Having a positive effect on people's lives here, like we do, is very rewarding." 

▼ SSG John Imperato of Rhinebeck, N.Y., a team chief from the 411th Civil Affairs Battalion (center), speaks with an Iraqi businessman (right) through an interpreter during a recent patrol through Tikrit's marketplace. The mission of the patrol was to make contact with members of Tikrit's business community and inquire about establishing a chamber of commerce, and to study the effects of Iraq's recent successful elections on business.

SSG Raymond Drumsta





Cultural awareness is one of many areas that CALL experts have helped define for Soldiers in such places as Iraq and Afghanistan. Here, SGT Sam Emery helps an Iraqi army soldier conduct a cordon and search mission in a Baghdad market.

Making the Most of Lessons Learned

Story by Beth Reece



Check out the Lessons Learned Web site at: <http://call.army.mil>.

In a time of change, Soldiers adjust. Steering the way is the Center for Army Lessons Learned.

“We offer more than observations — we give solutions,” said Dan French, deputy director for CALL at Fort Leavenworth, Kan. “Warfare has changed and it’s more complex than ever. Soldiers are trying to re-establish utilities and infrastructure at the same time they’re engaged in battle.”

CALL gives Soldiers an edge on the enemy by sharing proven tactics, techniques and procedures, or TTPs. Its staff of observers and analysts evaluate real-world missions in such places as Iraq and Afghanistan, then collaborate with units to define the best methods of engagement.

Lessons learned arrive in Soldiers’ hands through a variety of CALL products — handbooks, guides, newsletters and bulletins. The prime portal for these insights is the center’s Web site, <http://call.army.mil>.

“The amount of information on our site has exploded in the past year,” said French. “We have things that are useful to Soldiers of all ranks and in all job specialties.”

CALL covers every aspect of the military, from training and operational information to mission preparation and cultural awareness. As the Army’s storehouse for lessons learned, CALL promotes information-sharing among leaders, training



The Center for Army Lessons Learned - CALL



▲ The need for additional knowledge on improvised explosive devices prompted CALL to publish several newsletters and handbooks on the subject. Here, SSG Tony DiCharia of the 113th Engineer Battalion practices searching for dummy devices.

centers, and units rotating in and out of Iraq and Afghanistan.

“It’s important that deployed division-level commanders and their staffs get a one on one with units next up for rotation, especially as they get closer to transfers of authority,” French said.

Because missions can be dangerous and enemies switch tactics, incoming units need the most current information available, he added.

“So commanders leaving the area are telling new units, ‘This is what’s really going on. This is what you’re about to step into,’” French said.

The spread of CALL reps throughout the Army helps foster change in the right places at the right times, French said. Information acquired by embedded reps is fed to CALL observation detachments at training sites, for example. This leads to instant

replication of real-life scenarios and updates in how opposing forces challenge Soldiers in training.

“Both NTC and JRTC had pretty robust urban-operations capabilities before the war. Now they’ve got tunnels, waterways and even Iraqi natives who are role playing so leaders learn how to negotiate,” said French.

“Training centers used to have “canned” live-fire exercises. Now they have live-fire convoy training. One of the things we try to push to units is that the M-16 is just not a good weapon to fire from inside a Humvee. But the M4 is quite nice — compact and very maneuverable,” he added.

Finding Solutions

CALL gathers the newest TTPs from direct and indirect sources — direct coming from collection and analysis teams, or CAATS, formed by CALL, and indirect being shared by Soldiers wanting others to benefit from their hard-earned knowledge. Not a week passes without a Soldier volunteering information, said James Walley, the senior military analyst for CALL’s Actual Operations Branch.

“We give this information the

CALL assigns one of its own members as an operations officer or NCO, and subject-matter experts throughout the Army are handpicked to fill in as team chiefs and observers.

same importance as if one of our own CAATs went to the field to gather it,” he said. “When a Soldier sends us something, we take it seriously.”

CAATs are six- to 15-member teams formed to collect information on predefined issues within a specific subject area. CALL assigns one of its own members as an operations officer or NCO, and subject-matter experts throughout the Army are handpicked

to fill in as team chiefs and observers.

The teams create collection plans, or operating orders, to identify issues they'll research while in the theater of operations. They also review the Army's universal task list for a full view of tactical skills associated with the subject. This helps pinpoint exactly where necessary changes should be made to training or doctrine.

After 30 to 90 days in theater, CAATs return to Leavenworth to produce initial-impressions reports, then pamphlets, guides or handbooks that Soldiers can apply to their home-station training and mission preparation.

"Some units take pieces of different CALL-prepared packets and put together their own products, something Soldiers can put right in their pockets," Walley said.

In addition to CAATS, CALL has attached liaison officers to the divisions in Iraq, and two liaison officers to the multi-national headquarters in

Planning With DTMS

MANAGING unit training just got easier with the Digital Training Management System.

A web-based system, DTMS was designed around FM 7-0, "Training the Force," and is currently being fielded Armywide by the Combined Arms Center — Training Support Division.

It can be used at all unit levels to plan and manage short- or long-term training, ranging from PT tests to rotations to the National Training Center, said LTC Matthew Laver, DTMS program manager for CAC—Training.

"The system brings up tasks in most-useful order, according to units' missions. It will also allow users to create local tasks, such as cold-weather training for a unit based in Alaska," said Laver.

With each task the system details conditions and standards, as well as such logistical data as how many vehicles and how much ammunition may be needed to complete training.

Commanders have access to the system so they can approve schedules, make additions or review information on Soldiers. The system also alerts users when training standards are not met.

"One of the best things about this is that leaders will have easy access to Soldiers' files. They will have a complete history of PT tests, deployments, education, weapons qualifications and even some information on Soldiers' families," Laver said. — *Beth Reece*



Edward Martens

▲ SSG Donald Wagers of the 940th Military Police Company calls in his convoy's departure information prior to delivering ammunition to three Iraqi police stations in Najaf Province. CALL has released training guides to help Soldiers understand convoy security.



▲ Soldiers from the 29th Infantry Division prepare to rush toward their next objective during a quick-reaction force exercise near Bagram, Afghanistan. Early this year, CALL published the Operation Enduring Freedom III handbook to help give follow-on units a current view of operations, as well as training guidelines and leader checklists.



▲ SPC Justin Walker from Company C, 2nd Battalion, 5th Inf. Regiment, pulls security during a foot patrol of the area surrounding Deh Rawod fire base near Uruzgan, Afghanistan.

Afghanistan. This facilitates more-rapid sharing of TTPs.

“We’ve got people on the ground all the time, so if we get a request for information on checkpoint operations, for example, we can have one of our embeds go out to units and see what they’re currently doing,” French said.

In addition to embeds positioned with units in Iraq and Afghanistan, CALL has attached liaison officers to units in Iraq. CALL also pairs embeds with CONUS-based units undergoing transformation. And when units conduct after-action reviews for unique missions, CALL is often there to collect the information.

Catalyst for Change

CALL was established in 1985, after an Army Studies Group headed by COL Wesley K. Clark was tasked to analyze the Army’s ability to adapt its forces to local combat conditions.



▲ PFC Shaun Kirby of the 502nd Engineer Battalion watches for insurgents onshore while the patrol boat he is protecting transports Soldiers to an island on the Tigris River. When Soldiers perform new, unique missions, CALL helps ensure new tasks are added to the curriculum at training centers.

Clark reported that the collection of lessons learned was uncoordinated, and that information reached the field slowly — if ever.

“Now the Army has an ability to speak to itself, to pass necessary information to those who need it, when they need it,” said CALL analyst Dr. Lon Seglie.

As troops headed into Iraq, CALL folks followed. “It was the right time for us to step in and show what we could really do,” Seglie said.

CALL reps were then feeding daily reports about the successes and failures of units heading into war to analysts back at Leavenworth.

“We saw great value in having someone from our staff dedicated to doing just that,” French said. “It’s hard to do this when you’re a platoon leader trying to lead your Soldiers in combat.”

The staff has grown from 52 to 140 members, and while some guides and newsletters are still produced on paper, the Web is CALL’s primary — and fastest — way of spreading information.

Help Yourself

CALL representatives say unit leaders can make the most of CALL by entrusting one person to regularly check updates on the CALL Web site. The heavy volume of information put out by the center can make navigating

the site difficult, French said, although continual redesigns of the site are intended to simplify the search.

Among CALL’s customers are Reserve and National Guard Soldiers.

“They’re among our biggest customers because they don’t have a base infrastructure they can go to for information,” French said. “We also have a section on the site dedicated to family readiness.”

CALL also accepts requests for information via e-mail and using online tools. Some inquiries may need extensive research, but CALL’s goal is to get answers into requesters’ hands within 48 hours. Deployed Soldiers, of course, have priority.

“Soldiers don’t always have time to do the research on their own, or they have limited time and are frustrated by how much information we have on a given subject,” said Walley. “When a Soldier in Iraq or Afghanistan is looking for information, we can usually provide it much quicker than he can find it on his own.”

Despite its current wartime focus, CALL will continue collecting and sharing lessons learned even after Soldiers’ presence in the Middle East dwindles.

“Without CALL, I think we’d have lost a lot more people in this current war, especially with the constant turnover,” said Seglie. “We’ve made a difference by getting information to Soldiers when they needed it most.”

Refining Battle Command

THE making of tomorrow’s Army starts at the Combined Arms Center at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

From the current force to the future force, CAC’s Training and Doctrine Command Program Integration Office — Battle Command ensures Soldiers have everything it takes to achieve their missions.

“We define battle command as the art and science of decision making and the ability to translate those decisions into actions on the battlefield. That means we look at systems, organizations and processes — anything having to do with command posts and what staffs do to support decision making,” said COL Stuart Whitehead, director of TPIO-BC.

“We’re involved in integrating emerging technologies, as well as making sure we’re on an appropriate path to the future with respect to such things as systems design and modularity,” he said.

The organization uses lessons learned and user feedback to refine operational requirements. Among its latest successes is the improvement of the Army Battle Command System. For the first time, Whitehead said, all active-Army divisions will soon have the same command-and-control equipment and capability.

Leaders continually remind CAC that tactical environments require specific approaches because they’re usually not enabled with heavy bandwidth.

Instead of designing mixed solutions for networks and equipment, then integrating them later, TPIO-BC is focused on consolidating systems upfront.

“Integrating those solutions after the fact is extremely difficult, expensive and inefficient,” Whitehead said. “As we go into the future, we want to create a context that places our integration standards up front, so that as new technologies are designed it’s done with the understanding that there is a standard.”

Key to everything TPIO-BC does is the individual Soldier.

“Not a day goes by when we don’t consider the individual Soldier,” said Whitehead. “Soldiers have the last word as to whether our systems, networks and equipment are appropriate.” — *Beth Reece*

A Soldier of the North Carolina Army National Guard's 30th Brigade Combat Team inspects the inside of a suspect vehicle during a night patrol in an Iraqi village near the Iranian border.





State of the Guard

Story and Photos by MSG Bob Haskell

THE National Guard is stronger than it has ever been before, and its “magnificent” performance in combat will make it an even stronger force to help defend this country, said LTG H. Steven Blum, chief of the National Guard Bureau.

Blum made many positive points about the state of the National Guard recently, based on its performance in the global war on terrorism over the past three years, when the number of Guard Soldiers deployed overseas increased from 5,000 to 120,000.

Blum — the Guard Bureau’s chief and the leading advocate for the National Guard’s 456,000 men and women for two years — predicted that people will continue to join the Guard and will remain in the ranks because the Guard has proven to be a “premier, winning, professional organization.

“People like to join and stay with a professional winning team,” he said.

“We’re reaching a point where almost 50 percent of the combat forces in Iraq belong to the Army National Guard,” Blum said. “I think that is a significant ‘high-water’ mark for the Guard. It clearly dispels any misconceptions that the Guard is not capable of performing complex combat missions in a joint and combined-arms environment in which we operate today.

“All of the 15 combat brigades that have been

(Continued on page 4)

MSG Bob Haskell works in the National Guard Bureau’s Public Affairs Office and is a frequent contributor to **Soldiers**.





▲ Artillerymen from the Arkansas National Guard's 39th Bde. Combat Team conduct a fire mission in Iraq.

called to the fight so far have performed in a magnificent fashion," Blum added. "They are making a significant contribution to the war fight. They have demonstrated their excellence in combat, as we have always demonstrated our excellence in combat-support and combat-service-support missions."

That was in keeping with President George W. Bush's observation in his state of the union address earlier this year.

"Right now, Americans in uniform are serving at posts across the world, often taking great risks on my orders," Bush said. "The volunteers of our military are unrelenting in battle, unwavering in loyalty, unmatched in honor and decency, and every day they are making our nation more secure."

"We've said farewell to some very good men and women who died for our freedom and whose memory this nation will honor forever," Bush said.

That included 189 members of the Army and Air National Guard, including the 138 men and women who have thus far been killed in action during operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

In assessing the Guard, Blum echoed the points and themes he has stressed during recent television appearances and before a Congressional committee with other Army and reserve-component leaders.

"The state of the Guard is that it has never been more ready. It has never been more accessible, reliable or essential at any time in its 368-year history than it is right now. The state of the Guard is solid and sound," Blum said.

▶ Soldiers from the 30th BCT move toward another village during a presence patrol.

"It is true that the Guard is being used at an unprecedented rate," he added. "But that certainly does not mean that it is not the best National Guard that this country has ever had to answer the call."

Getting down to brass tacks, Blum





◀ A resident tells patrolling Guard Soldiers of the 30th BCT about a suspected arms cache in his village.

elaborated on his recent request for \$20 billion to replace the Guard's weapons and equipment and on his intent to "reset" the National Guard so it is prepared for future operations.

He also addressed implications of the Army Modular Force for the Army Guard and the Air Force's Future Total Force for the Air Guard.

The \$20 billion, Blum said, is the amount of money needed to purchase the equipment that is necessary for the National Guard to be ready and able to perform its many missions, both in the United States and overseas.

"I want to make sure National Guard Soldiers are ready when they come home to be able to perform any missions they may be called upon to execute, either in homeland defense or in support of homeland security, or to be ready the next time they're called to reinforce the Army or the Air Force overseas," Blum said.

Adjusting Guard units in order to fit into the Army Modular Force, he said, "will allow us to redistribute capabilities, so that each state and territory will be able to perform homeland defense, support homeland security, and still provide trained and ready forces for the Army to use overseas."

"I have never seen the Guard more engaged, more professional, more needed, and making as much of a difference as it is right now."

The National Guard, Blum said, has answered every requirement that the states and the nation have presented in the past three years.

"I have never seen the Guard more engaged, more professional, more needed, and making as much of a difference as it is right now," he said. 🇺🇸



▲ Guard Soldiers — like their active-duty and Reserve comrades — have been called upon to pay the ultimate price in the war on terror.

Soldiers of the 55th Signal Company deploy worldwide to gather still and video images to support commanders.

A ROUTINE patrol in Iraq comes under enemy fire. The Soldiers take their positions, returning fire as the enemy retreats. Every move made during the attack is captured on film and video.

Patrols like this one in Iraq, Afghanistan and other locations around the world are common places to find the Soldiers of the 55th Signal Company from Fort Meade, Md. The unit, which is commonly referred to as Combat Camera, documents Army operations.

“In Afghanistan and Iraq our mission is to provide direct visual imagery to combatant commanders to assist with their decisions,” said the 55th’s commander, CPT Mark Boeke. “We’ve also been documenting medical and veterinary humanitarian-aid missions in places like Afghanistan.”

As members of the only active-duty combat camera unit, the Soldiers deploy in teams to gather video and still images for the commanders they support.

“Combat Camera Soldiers have been continuously deployed since 1995, mostly to Europe, including the Balkans,” said Boeke. “The biggest requirement we have for members of the unit is that they be deployable. When we’re not deployed,



Ready,

Story by MSG Lisa Gregory

Shoot,



SSG Vernell Hall, 55th Signal Company, interviews MAJ Christine Nichols from the Parwan Provincial Reconstruction Team, Bagram Air Base, on providing apprehension and crowd-control training to Afghan policewomen in Kabul, Afghanistan.

Document



▲ SSG Klaus Baesu captures images of an oil well fire near Baiji, Iraq, from a circling UH-60 helicopter.

we also provide support for such other major Army events as the Soldier and NCO of the year competition.”

For the unit’s Soldiers the most important thing is doing their job and getting the mission done for the units they’re assigned to cover. Finding their place within a particular unit is often their first challenge.

“When we go out, we have to work as a team. The units we’re assigned to support aren’t always ready to accept us as a part of their team. First they must understand our mission,” said SSG Vernall Hall. “In other units I never felt like I had to work my way into a team to get the job done.”

SSG Klaus Baesu said it’s not just

“We go where the Soldiers go, standing side by side with them as they do their jobs and we do ours.”

about being a part of the 55th Sig. team, but it’s critical that combat camera photographers also become part of the unit they’re assigned to cover.

“We go where those Soldiers go, standing side by side with them as they do their jobs and we do ours,” said SSG Mitch Hull.

Initially infantry and armor Soldiers see combat camera teams carrying their cameras and think that they have an added responsibility to protect them, said Hull.

“It’s not unusual for a group of Soldiers to think they have to stop what they’re doing to provide security for us,” said SGT Jose Hernandez. “Sometimes we have to prove ourselves to other Soldiers and explain that we carry weapons and are trained just as they are to use them. But once they see us doing our jobs and taking care of ourselves, they begin to regard us as part of their team.”

Hull said the camera teams usually support a variety of units, either simultaneously or individually. With Army transformation, that may soon be a thing of the past for the unit.

“We’re looking at ways to incorpo-

rate our teams within the brigades and allow the combat camera Soldiers who would deploy from their home station here a chance to meet the commanders and train with the units before they go,” said Boeke.

“Normally our taskings come from higher headquarters, so the units we support don’t know the Soldiers who will be with them,” he said. “We’re looking at different ways to be able to establish a solid working relationship with each other ahead of time.

“Because we can’t always train with the unit we’ll be documenting,” said Boeke, “it’s important that each Soldier has a solid training path. We’ve incorporated ranges, and even close-combat training, so when these Soldiers arrive at their destinations they’ll know how to maneuver and still be able to document everything going on around them.”

That type of training has proven invaluable, not only for the Soldiers coming from other units, but for those just coming out of their Advanced Individual Training school as well.

“When we deploy, we’re put in situations where we have to be ready to step up and take charge,” said SPC Brandi Marshall. “I know when I leave here I’ll be taking real-world experience with me and that will make me a better leader for other Soldiers.

“Being a part of the 55th puts us on the ground with other Soldiers and lets us show the world what they’re doing,” Marshall added.

Whether documenting firefights or Soldiers giving aid to others, the pho-



◀ Combat camera Soldiers routinely capture images of insurgent attacks in Iraq, including this car bombing of an Iraqi police station just outside the Green Zone in Baghdad.



▲ SGT Mitchell Hull tapes a group of students during a visit to the Kalkalan School in Kirkuk, Iraq.

➤ SPC Kevin P. Bell records footage of a checkpoint set up in Argentina as part of Exercise Cabanas, which involved the armed forces of the United States and nine South American nations.

tographers and videographers of the 55th Sig. Co. stand by their mission of sending images and video footage back to their home station, where it's sent on to those who need it.

"When we're out there, we don't always know where our images or video will be used," said Baesu, "but when we get home and see the photos we took being used to tell the world what the Army is doing, we know we're doing our jobs, and that's a great feeling." 📷

▼ Among the images captured by combat camera Soldiers is this one, of members of the 82nd Engr. Bn. inspecting captured munitions in Iraq.



Engage and **DESTROY**

Story and Photos by SGT Kristopher Joseph

YOU launch, you die.
In his memoir, “American Soldier,” GEN Tommy Franks wrote that that was the lesson Iraqi missile crews learned early in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Army Patriot missile batteries had shot down an enemy Ababil-100 missile headed for the 101st Airborne Division’s tactical assembly area on the first day of the war and an Al Samoud missile aimed at the Coalition Forces Land Component Command headquarters a week later.

Within minutes of the second attack, the launch site near Basra was identified and destroyed by the Air Force.

V Corps air defenders know it takes long hours of coordination, planning, deploying and training to make dramatic “saves” like those happen. Proof of that came to a thundering climax recently at the culmination of exercise Juniper Cobra ’05.

The fire, smoke and tungsten steel of Patriots pierced the Israeli sky that day, capping the biennial exercise that tests

SGT Kristopher Joseph works in the V Corps Public Affairs Office.



Germany-based Soldiers recently travelled to Israel to test the interoperability of U.S. European Command and Israeli air-defense systems, and strengthen the cooperative ties between the two nations.



▲ SPC Mark Howard (left) of Battery A, 5th Battalion, 7th Air Defense Artillery, and Israeli Cpl. Ori Stern man a Patriot missile engagement control station.

the interoperability of U.S. European Command and Israeli air-defense artillery systems, and strengthens the ties of security cooperation between the two nations.

In the official terms of U.S. Army, Europe, commander GEN B.B. Bell's command training guidance, the Army's goals for Juniper Cobra are

to "concentrate on deploying theater missile defense assets into a joint operations area, reconnaissance of real-world battle positions, Patriot live-fire, and the activation of a V Corps-led theater missile defense joint task force that links into a joint-coalition command and control system."

About half of the approximately 1,000 U.S. service members who took part in this third Juniper Cobra exercise came from the headquarters of the corps' 69th Air Defense Artillery Brigade in Giebelstadt, Germany,



▲ PV2 Steven Freudenberg of the 69th ADA Bde. sounds a manual alarm during a mock chemical attack at a military base outside Tel Aviv.

and its two Germany-based Patriot battalions — the 5th Bn., 7th ADA, in Hanau, and the 6th Bn., 52nd ADA, in Ansbach.

The corps air defenders were part of a group of American forces deployed here by sea and air as a joint task force that also included National Guard Soldiers and members of the Air Force and Navy. Those task force members blended their expertise with the know-how of their counterparts in the Israeli Defense Forces for a two-month-long exercise.

Juniper Cobra was executed through three specialized phases. The first phase consisted of a 36-hour joint U.S.-Israeli field-training exercise in the Tel Aviv area. The exercise focused on marking a launch site, deploying and emplacing missile launchers, and establishing communications with the engagement-control stations where troops push the launch buttons.

The second phase was a computer-assisted command-post exercise during which task force members had to react to simulated ballistic-missile attacks and scenarios that challenged U.S. and Israeli air defenders to mesh their missile-defense doctrines and



▲ Clad in chemical protective gear, 69th ADA Soldiers settle into a bunker to wait out the "chemical attack."



Israeli Defence Forces photo

▲ A Soldier walks past a trio of 69th ADA Patriot launchers set up outside Tel Aviv.

► A Soldier sprays a vehicle during a decontamination exercise. Two lanes were set up to handle personnel and vehicles simultaneously.

make combined split-second decisions.

The final phase was the live-fire exercise that allowed the joint-combined team to put their hard work and preparation to the ultimate test — engaging and destroying live ballistic practice drones.

“Juniper Cobra is like a military laboratory where we can experiment, test and confirm our air defenses with our U.S. counterparts,” said Brig.

The corps air defenders were part of a group of American forces deployed to Israel by sea and air as a joint task force.



Maj. Elizabeth Hübner

Gen. Ilan Bitton, the Israeli air force’s air defense artillery commander. “Through our shared knowledge and experience, we are more than ever prepared and capable of providing the maximum security for our citizens.”

While officials of both nations agree that each has sufficient theater ballistic missile defenses of its own, they have also agreed that their shared values and interests led to the creation and continuation of the exercise.

Indeed, Israel views its theater missile defense as so important that it

is essentially the only arena of military operations in which the normally self-sufficient Israeli forces conduct extensive training and operations with other nations.

Much of Juniper Cobra’s focus is on consolidating the powers of the U.S. Patriot missile, the powerhouse interceptor that quickly became a household word following its first appearances in Operation Desert Storm, and the Israeli Arrow missile. Air defenders from both nations are not shy about singing the praises of the potent



▲ SPC Keillen Johnson (*left*) and PFC Phillip Thiessen of 5th Bn., 7th ADA, flank Israeli army Pvt.s. Dima Flyshman and Max Vizcko while the four were standing guard duty outside the base near Tel Aviv.

one-two punch of the systems working in concert.

“We have a balance,” said joint task force commander MG Henry Burchstead of the South Carolina National Guard’s 263rd Army Air and Missile Defense Command. “The Arrow is designed to destroy missile threats in the upper atmosphere, while the Patriot primarily engages targets in the lower atmosphere, giving us a two-tiered missile defense system.”

That successful two-tier defense has been the nucleus of past Juniper Cobra exercises, Burchstead added. But this time, the exercise hailed a step up in missile defense innovation.

Before the exercise, U.S. and Israeli missile operators were put into simulators that replicated various forms of debris they might encounter in an air-defense battle. For the first time, ADA operators trained to

deconflict air debris on their radars and engage any incoming missiles that bypassed initial defenses because of that debris.

COL Kirk Lawrence, the joint task force chief of staff, said the ability to overcome debris and destroy “leakers” — enemy missiles that make it past the first tier of defense — is a “potentially ground-breaking technique” on the tactical level.

Radar synchronization was sup-

plied by sailors on board USS Carney, an Arleigh Burke-class destroyer home-ported in Mayport, Fla. It’s been deployed in the Mediterranean since November, supporting the Navy’s Sixth Fleet.

Carney’s crew provided the task force with the power of its Aegis combat system and the SPY-ID radar, an advanced multi-function, phased-array radar capable of searching, tracking and guiding missiles simultaneously.

Cpl. Charles Barber



► Canadian sailors aboard the supply ship HMCS *Protecteur* watch as the USS *Carney* pulls away. The U.S. and Canadian ships joined Army, Air Force and Israeli units in conducting Juniper Cobra.

Before the exercise, U.S. and Israeli missile operators were put into simulators that replicated various forms of debris they might encounter in the air-defense battle.

With the ability to track more than 100 targets at once, the Navy system allowed the Patriot and Arrow operators to see a single, integrated air picture.

Navy officials said that providing that support for Juniper Cobra was an opportunity for the Navy to increase its expertise on many levels as well.

"The Navy's participation was designed to enhance interoperability and develop military-to-military cooperation among the participating countries," said Lt. j.g. David Luckett, the Sixth Fleet's deputy public-affairs officer. "Very few military operations will be conducted by one service in today's effects-based operations."

"Working with the Army for Juniper Cobra 2005 was a valuable experience for me as a radar technician," added *Carney* crew member FC3 Raymond Kinchen. "It stressed our functional capabilities and our hands-on technical experience."

While the exercise drills were not much different than what the 69th would do at home in Germany, Law-

rence said the uniqueness of Juniper Cobra lies in the real-world relevance of the training.

"We are here to help and contribute to Israel's defenses," said Lawrence. "We are not protecting some static, impersonal asset. Tel Aviv is a living, breathing city of more than a million people."

"The priority was keeping everything as real as possible for the Soldiers," Lawrence said. "They are aware of Israel's unique situation, and they've seen first-hand how serious the IDF is taking this exercise."


Lawrence said the success of Juniper Cobra and the longtime defense cooperation between the two nations is a result of the personal and individual bonds that have been made through the course of this and previous exercises.

CSM Bruce Likens of the 69th ADA Bde. said the success of Juniper Cobra also depends heavily on the support of service members on both sides who worked behind the scenes to make the exercise happen.

After spending two years planning and two months executing Juniper Cobra 05, task force members looked forward to the exercise's live-fire event like kids clamoring for the grand finale of a Fourth of July fireworks show. And they weren't disappointed. The U.S. and IDF crews fired 15 missiles. All 15 hit their targets.

"The live-fire was not only the climax of the exercise, it was the height of my career," said SPC Mark Howard of the 5th Bn.'s Btry. E. It was the first Patriot launch he had witnessed.

As the U.S. military continues to build coalitions, strengthen international ties and transition to a more expeditionary force, task force officials say the Juniper Cobra exercises have been key road maps to success.

"The future of our security lies in mutual cooperation, jointness and interoperability," Luckett said. "Our definition of partnerships is expanding to include nations, navies, and other organizations of expertise not traditionally considered." 



▲ A Patriot streaks from its launcher during the live-fire phase of the exercise. Fifteen Patriots were fired during the course of Juniper Cobra, and all 15 hit their intended targets.



Story and Photos MSG Bob Haskell

MSG Bob Haskell works in the National Guard Bureau's Public Affairs Office and is a frequent contributor to Soldiers

Blum addressed the leaders of “Helmets to Hardhats,” a national, federally funded program that provides access to the best jobs in the construc-

It provides union jobs to people

A photograph showing three construction workers on a steel framework. One worker in a camouflage shirt and orange helmet is on top of a beam, another in a tan shirt and white helmet is below him, and a third in a green shirt and orange helmet is further back. They are working on a large steel structure against a blue sky with clouds.

➤ **LTG Steven Blum, chief of the National Guard Bureau, meets with labor leaders in Orlando, Fla.**

who have acquired skills in the military that are needed by the construction industry, such as welding, demolitions and heavy-equipment operations.

"You are opening doors that would otherwise not be open to these people," Blum told leaders of the AFL-CIO's Building and Construction Trades Department.

The job initiative also brings together two factions that have built this country, Blum said.

"Together, the military and the construction trades have built America over the past several hundred years with the same kind of sweat, equity, commitment and courage," he said.

Blum praised construction workers for digging in to save many lives after terrorists struck the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001.

"National Guard members are active participants in Helmets to Hardhats, because they are on hand immediately, as opposed to transitioning at some future date, and because they reside close to job sites and usually don't have to relocate," Caulfield said.

"No other industry in the United States has ever made a total commitment to support the armed forces by providing access to the best jobs, as in construction," he added. "No other industry has offered to assist in recruiting by educating its members on the benefits of joining the National Guard."



Furthermore, Caulfield said, the Department of Veteran's Affairs Office of Vocational Rehabilitation is working with Helmets to Hardhats to provide access to construction jobs for veterans with disabilities.


Mere words cannot express our gratitude for the program you have established to provide war-wounded veterans access to jobs in the construction industry," Blum told the AFL-CIO leaders. "I know it will be another success which will be a credit to you and your industry."

Although it's not a construction job, Florida Army Guard SPC Henry St. Charles said he got his cellular telephone job because he registered

with Florida's Hire a Hero program after completing his initial chemical-operations training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

He is said to be the first Florida Guard member to be hired through that program.

"I was looking for a job while I'm going to college," said St. Charles, who is studying business management at the University of South Florida. He was hired two weeks after he applied for a job. "I'm a retention representative. I try to talk people out of discontinuing their telephone service," he said.

"My supervisor told me he selected me because I'm a Guard member," St. Charles added, "and because he wanted someone who is reliable." 

"You are opening doors that would otherwise not be open to these people."



Learn more about the program and register online at : www.helmetstohardhats.org.

HELMETS to HARDHATS to HELMETS to HARDHATS

Becoming MPs

Story and Photos by SPC Kevin Stabinsky

IT'S BEEN said that the end of one journey is the beginning of another. Soldiers from the 126th and 860th Military Police companies from New Mexico and Arizona, respectively, find themselves in that position after completing a one-year training program to become MPs.

Due to increasing demands for MPs in the war on terror, the MP Corps is projected to nearly double in strength from 38,000 to 70,000, Army officials said.

While some of the additional Soldiers will come from provisional companies, such as field artillery units that are changing over to MP companies, many more MPs will come from new Reserve and National Guard companies that are being formed.

SPC Kevin Stabinsky is an Army journalist assigned to the U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Polk, La.



▲ A Soldier guides a Humvee out of Forward Operating Base Cuervo at Camp Beauregard, La., during Exercise Viper Strike '05, the culminating training event for the 126th and 860th Military Police companies.



Due to increasing demands for MPs in the war on terror, the MP Corps is projected to nearly double in strength from 38,000 to 70,000, Army officials said.



Platoon leaders gather to prepare for their next mission during Viper Strike '05. Soldiers were exposed to a variety of training scenarios, ranging from ambushes to sniper fire and dealing with hostile civilians.



- ▶ Role players taunt and harass a convoy of Soldiers leaving their forward operating base.
- ▶ An improvised explosive device lies in wait. Soldiers learned to identify such devices and properly secure the area around them.
- ▶ A Soldier reviews the “black and gray” list. Members of the 126th and 860th MP companies managed to “capture” or “kill” 20 suspects on the list.

The 126th and 860th are the first of 28 such projected companies. Roughly 90 percent volunteers, the Soldiers come from a wide variety of other military occupational specialties.

“We chose to do this. We wanted to be here and came with a will to learn,” said CPT Nick Ramos, 126th MP Co. commander. “We’re willing to stand up to relieve Soldiers on duty in Iraq and Afghanistan. And we take this duty very seriously.”

“The new MP companies were formed specifically for duty in Iraq,” said MAJ David Detz of the 519th MP Battalion at Fort Polk, La. Once in-theatre they will be attached to the 720th and 504th MP battalions.

To prepare these new companies, Fort Polk MP companies, with support from other Fort Polk units, set up realistic scenarios and exercises to test and certify the transitioning Soldiers.

A final month-long event called Viper Strike '05 at Camp Beauregard, La., tested Soldiers on lessons learned. Complete with a freethinking, seasoned, 80-person opposing force, and other role players, the field exercise also validated the units’ tactical and technical proficiencies.

But before running through this scenario, Soldiers mastered team, squad and platoon mission-essential tasks. Over five weeks, the Soldiers were trained on 16 individual and 12 collective MP tasks and scores of headquarters-specific tasks related to security missions in Iraq.

The tasks focused on detainee operations, close-quarters combat and team certification.

- ▶ A Soldier checks the identification of a “captured insurgent” following a patrol. Locating and securing suspects was a key part of the training.

In each of the training areas, Soldiers conducted personnel and vehicle searches, cleared rooms, conducted dismounted patrols and processed evidence. And they learned about the relationship between MPs and military intelligence, how to react to improvised-explosive devices and how to protect convoys.

To ensure that the new MPs would be ready for their mission, training was based on real-life events and lessons learned in Iraq.

“We’ve done our research,” said instructor SSG Duran Davis, an MP with the 204th MP Company. “Ninety-



“The instructors use every available training aid to teach us what we’ll need to know in Iraq.”

five percent of us have come back from Iraq in the last 12 months. The experience helps out a lot.”

Davis, who gave instruction on vehicle searches, said besides incorporating some of their own experiences, instructors studied lessons learned from deployed units. “You have to be smarter than the enemy, so we’re always reading up-to-date information and adding our own doctrine,” he said.

“The instructors use every available training aid to teach us what we’ll need to know in Iraq,” said PFC Eric Wilmeth, of the 126th. “They want us to make mistakes here, so we can excel over there.”

“The training has been great, and we’re ready to do the job,” said SSG Terry Rodgers of the 860th MP Co.

▼ Following a year of rigorous training, members of the 860th MP Co. are all smiles after receiving their medals and mascot during the Viper Strike '05 graduation ceremony.



▲ A Soldier clears his weapon after a mission. Blanks, MILES, role players and a motivated and highly realistic opposing force added realism to Viper Strike '05.

Although they’ll be attached to other MP battalions, the 126th and 860th are more than capable of standing on their own, being able to set up as their own element, self-sustain and operate in one sector, Detz said.

While operating in their sectors, the units will help bring stability and

security to various areas of Iraq, as other MPs have done before them.

“There is no doubt in my mind, having seen the improvements these units have made, that both have the proper ingredients to be successful,” said LTC David P. Glaser, commander of the 509th MP Bn. 🇺🇸





▲ SGT Dean Tagawa, veterinary technician with the 109th Medical Detachment, feeds a dog oral deworming medicine.

NEW HORIZONS

IN EL SALVADOR

Story and Photos by SSgt Karen J. Tomasik, USAF

SOLDIERS, Sailors and Airmen recently joined forces in El Salvador as part of Joint Task Force Para Los Niños, to provide humanitarian aid — including construction of schools and clinics, and medical care — to nine communities throughout the country.

The U.S. Southern Command-sponsored exercise was led by the Air

Force Reserve, with Air Force units building schools and clinics, and other units providing free medical care, said Air Force Maj. William Riehl, joint task force commander.

Soldiers from the Army's 24th Medical Company provided medevac support to personnel at the JTF base camp and its construction and medical-readiness sites. The Nebraska-based National Guard unit also supported the JTF commander by transporting personnel and equipment.

"We provide 24-hour support to the entire task force," said CPT

Grant Siedenburg. "Our main focus is overseas-deployment training, so this exercise provided us a great opportunity to train for duty in places like Iraq and Afghanistan."

Soldiers in the unit include UH-60 Black Hawk pilots, flight medics, and maintenance and operations personnel.

A seven-member reverse-osmosis water-purification unit, composed of Soldiers from the 651st, 347th and 388th Quartermaster detachments, provided the camp with potable water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene.

Air Force SSgt Karen Tomasik is assigned to the Joint Task Force Para Los Niños Public Affairs Office.



◀ LTC Stephen Steepleton, an internal medicine physician assistant, evaluates the symptoms of a young boy during a visit to a Salvadoran village.

“We test the water every hour, making sure it conforms to the Army’s standard.”

The water is run through four different filtration systems, to ensure that it’s free from chemicals or bacteria. “We test the water every hour, making sure it conforms to the Army’s standard,” said SFC Misty Ballinger, a water-treatment supervisor from the 651st QM Det.

Teams of Army Reserve veterinarians and technicians from the 109th Medical Det., a veterinary-services unit based in Stanton, Calif., also played a major role in the medical-readiness exercise.

Members of the unit, who live in Montana, Alaska, Washington and California, had an opportunity to treat animals ranging from cattle and horses, which they typically treat, as well as foxes, raccoons and even a flock of parakeets.

“Our three teams vaccinated cattle, horses, goats, sheep and pigs against anthrax, and treated the animals for internal and external parasites,” said veterinarian Dr. (CPT) Melinda Hutton. “We also vaccinated the horses for tetanus and encephalitis.”

SPC Frank Ramirez, veterinary technician and food inspector, noticed that many of the large animals were malnourished, and nearly all the smaller animals, mostly cats and dogs, were infected with fleas and ticks.

Veterinarians provided minerals for the larger animals, said Dr. (CPT) George Barrington, team veterinarian and large-animal medicine professor at Washington State University, because “the large animals here definitely don’t get much nutritional value from the vegetation.”

While construction work and medical and veterinary care continue at various sites in El Salvador, a combined group of Air Force Reserve security troops, Army Reserve military police and Salvadoran soldiers provided 24-hour security to the base camp and the off-camp locations.

“This is the first time we’ve integrated with each other, and it’s been a great experience,” said Air Force Master Sgt. John Frank of the 482nd Security Forces Squadron. “We perform foot patrols, all-terrain-vehicle patrols and exercises to maintain the security of this operation.”

As projects progress, a team of civil-affairs Soldiers works behind the scenes to ensure local citizens have what they need to use new buildings when they receive them.

The six-member team consists of four Soldiers from the 96th CA Bn., the Army’s only active-duty civil-affairs unit, from Fort Bragg, N.C., and Marine Reservists from the 3rd CA Group from Camp Pendleton, Calif.

“Our job, in a nutshell, is to fill in the gaps during this mission,” said CPT Roy Waldhoff, CA team chief. “When the construction is complete and we hand over the keys to schools and clinics, we make sure that desks, chairs, school supplies and basic medical supplies are available.”

Besides securing materials for the clinics and schools through non-governmental organizations, the CA team identifies small additional projects that will provide a lasting service to the people of El Salvador long after the troops rotate home at the end of the exercise.

Some of those projects include rebuilding part of a clinic damaged by



▶ Dr. (LTC) Richard Carner talks with a Salvadoran patient during a clinic held at a local school.

fire, repairing water towers, providing medical supplies left over from the medical-readiness exercise to an orphanage for AIDS-infected children, and building benches and other furniture for an orphanage that cares for some 100 orphans and abused children. 📌

Father and Son:

Citizen Warriors

Story by COL Randy Pullen

ON July 1, 1898, LTC Theodore Roosevelt performed an act of heroism great enough for him to receive the nation's highest decoration for valor, the Medal of Honor.

It then took 103 years for one of his descendants to have the medal presented to him. That presentation was more than 56 years after Roosevelt's son posthumously received the same decoration.

The elder Roosevelt received the medal for his actions during the Spanish-American War at San Juan Hill, Cuba, while in command of the 1st U.S. Volunteer Cavalry Regiment, better known as the Rough Riders. Roosevelt led the Rough Riders up San Juan Hill and into the pages of American history. This charge also led to his becoming the president of the United States. The 2001 presentation made him the first U.S. president to be a Medal of Honor recipient.

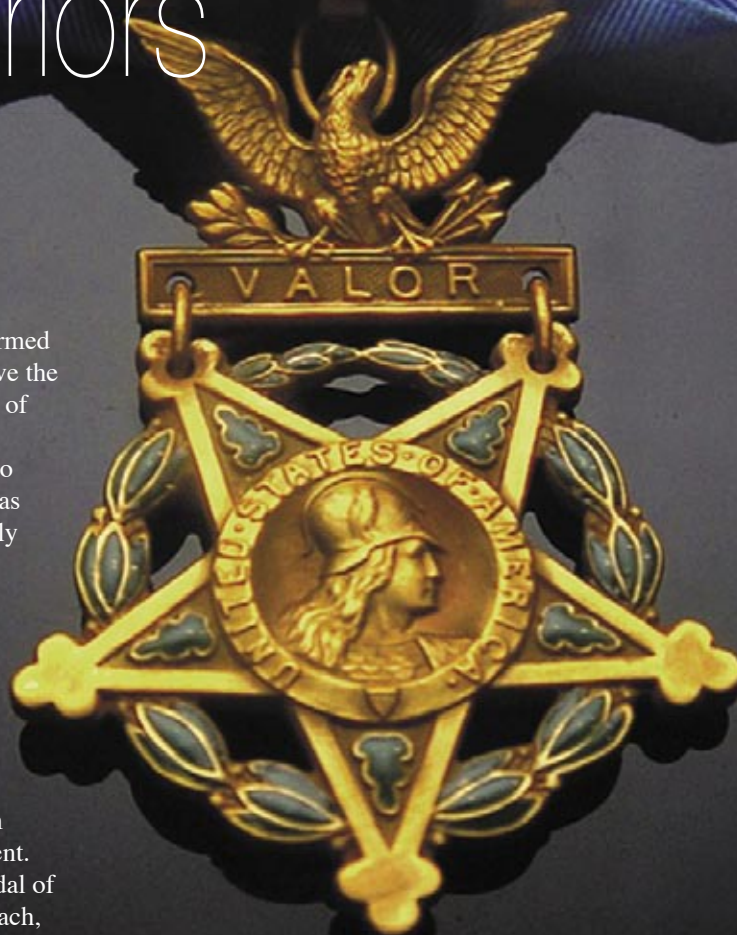
His son, Theodore Roosevelt Jr., received the Medal of Honor for his actions during World War II at Utah Beach, France, on June 6, 1944, while serving as assistant division commander of the 4th Infantry Division. Then a brigadier general, Roosevelt was in the first wave at Utah Beach. He was the first general officer to land on a Normandy beach on D-Day.

The Roosevelts were the second set of father and son Medal of Honor recipients in U.S. military history. The first pair was Arthur and Douglas MacArthur for their respective acts of heroism at Missionary Ridge, Tenn., during the Civil War and in the Philippines during World War II.

The Father

Theodore Roosevelt resigned his post as assistant secretary of the Navy at the beginning of the Spanish-American War to accept a commission as a lieutenant colonel in the Rough Riders, which he helped recruit, organize, train

COL Randy Pullen is the chief of the Print/Web Communications Division in the Office of the Chief of Public Affairs.



and lead to Cuba. When the regimental commander, COL Leonard Wood, himself a Medal of Honor recipient, was promoted to brigade command in Cuba, Roosevelt moved up to command the Rough Riders.

Roosevelt led the Rough Riders up Kettle Hill and San Juan Hill, fighting alongside the Regulars of the 1st, 9th and 10th U.S. Cav. regiments, the latter two units being the famed "Buffalo Soldiers." His heroism that day was inspiring, as he conspicuously put himself in front of his troops to lead them up the slopes, both on horseback – the only man to be mounted and thus a prime target for Spanish fire – and on foot.

The charge up San Juan Hill became one of the most celebrated feats in American history, and Roosevelt became one of the most famous men in America. This helped him to become governor of New York in 1898 and President William McKinley's running mate in 1900.

Roosevelt succeeded McKinley after McKinley's assassination in 1901. The new president was just 42 years old. He was elected in his own right in 1904 and is recognized as one of the most dynamic presidents this country has ever had. He was also the first American to win the Nobel Peace Prize, which he did in 1906 for his role in ending the Russo-Japanese War of 1905.

Roosevelt left the White House in 1909 but ran for president again in 1912 as a third-party candidate. Woodrow Wilson won that year. Roosevelt volunteered to raise and lead a volunteer division to France in 1917 but Wilson turned him down. All four of Roosevelt's sons fought in combat in World War I and his daughter served as a Red Cross nurse in France. Quentin Roosevelt, the youngest son and an Army fighter pilot, was killed in action on July 14, 1918.

The old Rough Rider died on Jan. 6, 1919, at the age of 60.

Although recommended by his entire chain of command for the Medal of Honor soon after the Battle of San Juan Hill, the recommendation was turned down by the War Department. It is believed that Roosevelt's criticism of the secretary of war resulted in him being denied the medal then. More than a century later and after years of efforts to give Roosevelt the decoration his actions deserved, President Bill Clinton presented a posthumous Medal of Honor to Roosevelt's great grandson at the White House on Jan. 16, 2001.

The Son

Theodore Roosevelt's service as a citizen-soldier lasted for a few months in 1898. His namesake's service in the Organized Reserves, as the Army Reserve was then called, lasted more than 25 years, from before World War I until his death during World War II.

Theodore Roosevelt Jr. served in combat in both world wars, earning every combat decoration available to a ground soldier. During World War I he commanded a battalion of the 26th U.S. Inf. Regiment, 1st Inf. Div., and then the regiment itself. He was gassed and severely wounded during combat in France. He was decorated five times.

Recalled to active duty in April 1941, Roosevelt first commanded his old World War I regiment until his promotion to brigadier general. He then became the assistant division commander of the 1st Inf. Div.

He served with the Big Red One throughout the North African and Sicily campaigns until both he and the division commander, MG Terry Allen, were relieved by GEN Dwight D. Eisenhower. They

were both recognized as outstanding leaders and their reliefs were "without prejudice." Eisenhower felt these two veteran and proven commanders were tired and needed a rest from combat. Both soon returned to combat leadership positions, however, with Allen as commander of the 104th Inf. Div. (Organized Reserve) and Roosevelt as assistant division commander of the 4th Inf. Div.

When Roosevelt joined the 4th Div. it was preparing for a key role on D-Day, an assault landing on Utah Beach. Roosevelt insisted on going in with the first wave to "steady the boys." MG Raymond Barton, the division commander, recognized that Roosevelt was considered one of the bravest men in the Army. Barton believed Roosevelt's presence could be a steadying influence for the assault troops, so he eventually granted the request, though he thought he was sending the 56-year-old Roosevelt to his death.


Leading the Way

On the morning of June 6, 1944, Roosevelt landed with the first wave on Utah Beach. He seemed to be everywhere, rallying hesitant soldiers and leading groups of men inland, despite German small arms, mortar and artillery fire. His lack of concern for his own safety inspired his troops.

He also made an important command decision. Realizing the first wave had been landed at the wrong place, he directed the follow-up waves to land behind the first wave, rather than adjusting to the correct landing spot. The original spot was heavily defended and this decision prevented Utah Beach from turning into the bloodbath that Omaha Beach had become.

For his courage and leadership on D-Day, Roosevelt received the Medal of Honor. By the time it was awarded, on Sept. 28, 1944, he was dead. Roosevelt, who had a bad heart and should not have been anywhere near a combat zone, died of a heart attack in Normandy on July 12.

He never knew that he had been selected that same day to take command of the 90th Inf. Div. (Organized Reserve).

Neither father nor son ever wore the medal that a grateful nation presented to them for answering the call to duty. 



Theodore Roosevelt



Theodore Roosevelt Jr.



▲ PFC Lee Seung-mok prepares to roll a ball during gas mask bowling at the Strike Zone Bowling Center.

THOUGH it may never become an Olympic sport, bowling in protective masks, chemical suits and gloves provided a few thrills recently as military-intelligence Soldiers put a new spin on training. The Soldiers of Company B, 532nd Military Intelligence Battalion, at Camp Humphreys, Korea bowled for about two hours as part of their nuclear, biological and chemical training, and as a way to build unit camaraderie. 🇺🇸



Steve Davis

▲ SSG Teresa Dyson rolls a ball during unit training.



Steve Davis

◀ Bowlers log their names into the automatic scoring system during “gas mask bowling.”

Mail photo submissions for Sharp Shooters to:
Sharp Shooters, Soldiers
 9325 Gunston Road, Ste. S108
 Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5581
 Digital images should be directed to:
lisa.gregory@belvoir.army.mil
 All submissions must include an introductory paragraph and captions.

Susan Barkley



▲ SGT Fabyolla Joseph watches as other Soldiers bowl in protective masks.

Steve Davis



▲ A losing team knocks out push-ups after a round of gas-mask bowling.

Are You Eligible?

NEW CAMPAIGN MEDALS

CAMPAIGN medals for service in Afghanistan and Iraq have been established to recognize service members who made specific sacrifices and significant contributions in those areas of operation.

Service members authorized the Afghanistan Campaign Medal must have served in direct support of Operation Enduring Freedom on or after Oct. 24, 2001. Those authorized the Iraq Campaign Medal must have served in direct support of Operation Iraqi Freedom on or after March 19, 2003. Cutoff dates will be determined later by the secretary of defense.

Service members must have been assigned, attached or mobilized to units operating in these areas of eligibility for 30 consecutive days or for 60 nonconsecutive days, or meet one of the following criteria:

- Be engaged in combat during an armed engagement, regardless of time in the area of eligibility; or
- While participating in an operation or performing other duties, be wounded or injured and require medical evacuation from the area of eligibility; or
- Participate as a regularly assigned aircrew member flying sorties into, out of, within or over the area of eligibility in direct support of the military operations. Each day of operations counts as one day of eligibility.

Service stars are not prescribed for the medals. Service members qualified for the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal will remain qualified for that medal.

The Afghanistan Campaign Medal shall be positioned below the Kosovo Campaign Medal and above the Iraq Campaign Medal. The Iraq Campaign Medal shall be positioned below the Afghanistan Campaign Medal and above the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal. — *Department of Defense*



Wanted!

PRIME POWER PRODUCTION SPECIALISTS

The Army's Prime Power School at Fort Belvoir, Va., is looking for sergeants and below with at least one year of military experience to attend its mechanical and electrical engineering program. Prime power production specialists supervise, install, operate and maintain electrical power plants worldwide.

The yearlong program is broken into an academic phase and an operator-training phase. In academics, students learn to solve a variety of math problems applicable to mechanical and electrical engineering, as well as applied physics. The operator-training phase is hands-on and results in licensing.

For information or application instructions, call the school at (703) 806-3904/3905/3923 or visit <https://primepowerschool.belvoir.army.mil>.

— *Prime Power School*



August "Hot Topics"

HOW DOES YOUR HOME RATE?

EXPANDED living and storage areas, rooms that accommodate modern furniture, neighborhoods with on-site maintenance teams and recreational facilities — they might soon be yours.

The Residential Communities Initiative is the Army's way of eliminating inadequate facilities and providing quality, sustainable family housing and residential communities on Army installations.

The August edition of "Hot Topics: Current Issues for Army Leaders" takes a look at RCI, detailing the successes of privatization and outlining future goals. The program currently includes 45 installations and more than 92 percent of the Army's family housing inventory in the United States.



For more information, see the August Hot Topics issue or visit www.soldiersmagazine.com

More Wanted!

WARRANT OFFICERS

THE Army is looking for Soldiers to fill its warrant-officer ranks. Positions are open in all 41 specialties, with shortages in military intelligence, special forces, criminal investigations, food service and air-drop systems.

Soldiers with fewer than 12 years of service may apply. For information visit www.usarec.army.mil/warrant. — U.S. Army Recruiting Command



Housing Allowance

FOR SINGLE STAFF SERGEANTS

SINGLE staff sergeants on stateside military installations may now live off post, thanks to a new policy.

The policy authorizes nondependent basic-allocation-for-housing pay to single staff sergeants on installations in the continental United States, Hawaii and Alaska. It does not apply to overseas facilities.

The policy is designed to work by attrition, and officials estimate it will be about three years before all single staff sergeant move out of barracks, as noncommissioned officers move and are reassigned in the normal course of Army operations. — *Army News Service*



Details are available under "Hot Topics" at www.hqda.army.mil/acsimweb

Help for Parents

CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE

THE child-care needs of military families often grow when service members deploy.

To help, the Department of Defense and the National Association of Child-Care Resource and Referral Agencies recently launched Operation Military Child Care. The program offers financial relief and assistance in locating quality child care to families of deployed Soldiers who lack access to on-base care.

"It can be a challenge for any parent to locate affordable, quality child care in their community. For the spouse of a deployed Guard or Reserve service member who may now be looking at a reduced income with a larger need for child-care support, the process can be even more overwhelming," said Linda Smith, executive director of NACCRRRA.

The amount of financial assistance varies according to total family income, geographic location, military policies for child-care fees, available funding and family circumstances. — *National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies*



Information is available at www.childcareaware.org.



Eyes Out for IEDs

CAVALRY scouts are the commander's eyes and ears on the battlefield. In Iraq, that battlefield is often the local highways and roads.

Performing his wartime mission in an unfamiliar environment, **PVT Martin Gaymon**, a cavalry scout with the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, used his eyes to spot an improvised explosive device while traveling along Route Tampa in Baghdad.

Gaymon, sitting in the gunner's seat of his Humvee, spotted the IED after three other vehicles in his convoy drove past the device.

"I screamed to my driver, 'Whoa, whoa, whoa! I think I see an IED! I think I see an IED!'" Gaymon recalled.

His intuition was correct — there was a green box along the side of the road with red wires attached to it and barely concealed under sandbags. The convoy blocked off the area to prevent other vehicles from entering the road.

After the 3rd ACR was relieved by another unit, the IED was detonated remotely. There was no damage to vehicles or personnel.

Gaymon was later awarded an Army Commendation Medal by 3rd ACR commander COL H.R. McMaster, who praised the 19-year-old Soldier for his quick thinking and for possibly saving lives.

"I don't think what I did was heroic," Gaymon said. "I was just doing what I've been trained to do. You know, I was just doing my job."

"If you don't speak up when you see something, you just killed somebody."

"If you don't speak up when you see something, you just killed somebody," said SSG Jeffery Marjerrison, section sergeant of the Personal Security Detachment. "There is nothing you can say about what Gaymon did except it was good soldiering. It was an outstanding effort and he wasn't afraid to speak up."

Marjerrison was the vehicle commander of Gaymon's vehicle. He said scouts are trained to recognize combat vehicles as a threat, but the IEDs pose a totally different threat and the scouts have to be ready to combat that.

"His actions prove that his training has paid off so far," Marjerrison added. "Gunners aren't just scanning for people, they're also looking for IEDs."

He said Gaymon's role as a gunner is one normally performed by a more senior trooper.

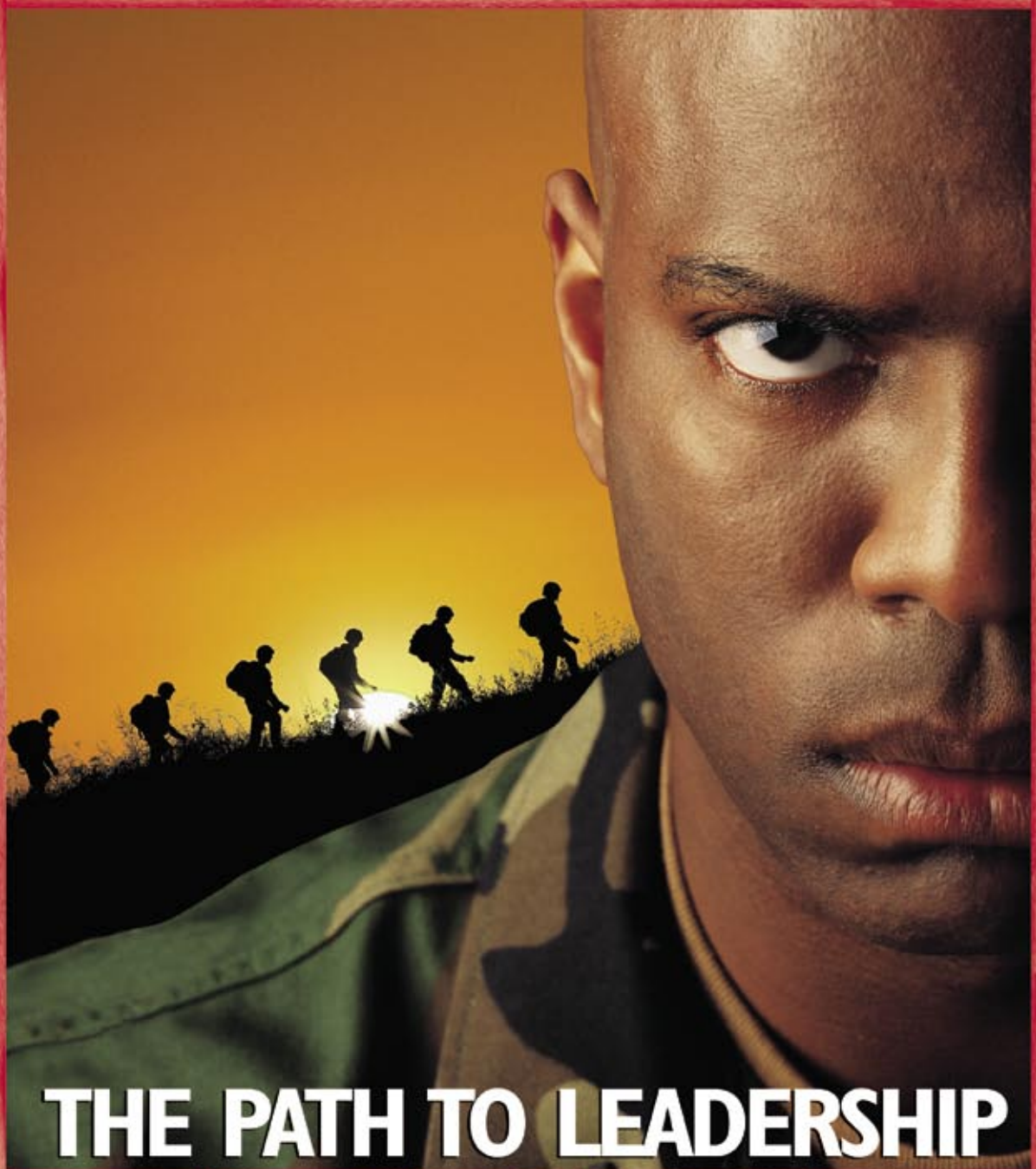
"He's filling a sergeant's position, and he's only a private," Marjerrison said. "He's doing the job of someone a few ranks ahead of him."

Slapping Gaymon on the shoulder before the award ceremony, his platoon sergeant, SSG Matthew Hodges, proudly said: "You might have saved somebody's life that day." 🇺🇸

SFC Donald Sparks is with the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment Public Affairs Office.



"Gunners aren't just scanning for people, they're also looking for IEDs."



THE PATH TO LEADERSHIP



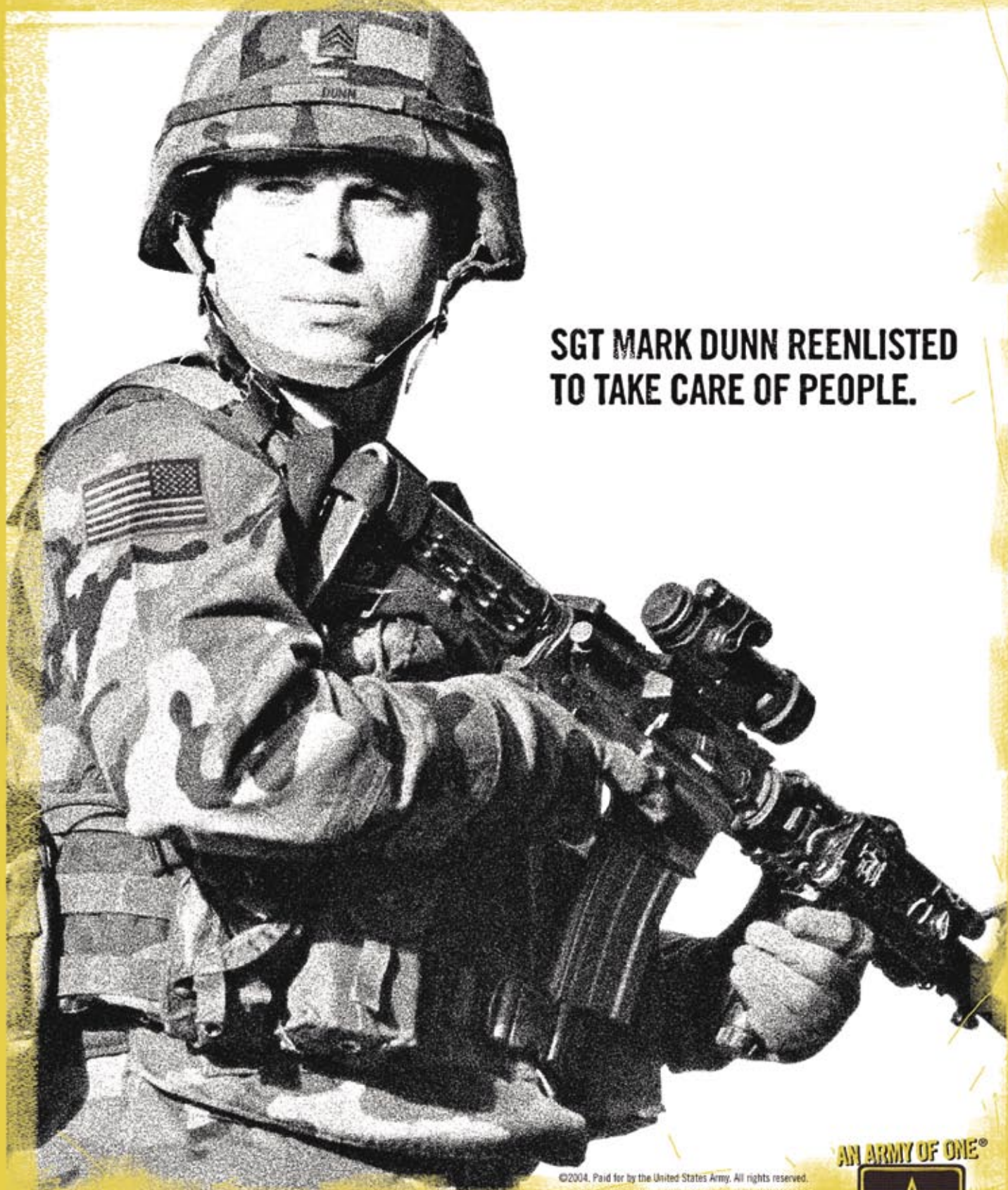
The Army National Guard will give you as much responsibility as you can shoulder. If you've got the desire and the drive, you can lead your team to the top. On your way to success, you'll also earn a regular paycheck, receive money for college, get career training and many more valuable benefits.

Learn to lead a team to higher goals. Join the Army National Guard.



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